



# **DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Dale J Schmidt** Sheriff    **Scott Smith** Chief Deputy

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date:

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## **Safe and Responsible Fireworks Use**

The Dodge County Sheriff's Office would like the public to be safe during the upcoming July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend. Every year there are reports across the country of individuals who are injured due to careless use of fireworks. Also, many do not realize that fireworks are regulated and that many fireworks are illegal to possess and or use without a permit. The general rule of thumb is that if the device explodes or leaves the ground you must have a permit from your local village, city or township. The reason for these permits is to ensure that proper steps are taken to prevent injury or property damage.

During this time of year, law enforcement receive countless fireworks complaints around the county. Many of these complaints are generated due to a lack of consideration for surrounding neighbors. I ask that you not only use care but also be courteous to your neighbors. Feel free to celebrate the freedom that our country has fought so hard to maintain. We simply ask that you be reasonable about the time, location and duration of that celebration. Remember that there are those in your neighborhoods who may have gone to bed, who have pets that may be disturbed by the loud noises or who may have other circumstances which your celebration causes hardship. One step you can take to minimize disturbing your neighbors is by talking with them ahead of time. Remember that by being responsible and being respectful of others will make everyone's celebration an enjoyable and safe one.

The Dodge County Sheriff's Office wishes you all a happy and safe Independence Day.

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